

## RESOLUTION NO. 12-574

**WHEREAS**, the Huntsville City Council is apprised that the Scruggs, Readus, Hawk, Russell and Martin Family Reunion will be headquartered at the Westin Hotel at Bridgestreet in Huntsville, Alabama, July 20-22, 2012; and,

**WHEREAS**, African-American multi-generational gatherings are not a new fad. "They date way back, probably to Africa, to the concept of village gatherings," were according to Ione Vartgus, professor emerita at Temple University and director of the Family Reunion Institute. "There is a natural tendency among people in the African-American community to come together, swap stories, and devote time to bonding," and,

**WHEREAS**, the theme "Treasuring the Family Legacy of Love," promises to be an exciting weekend with family members and special invited guests and friends. Family members will gather with a blast to kickoff this momentous occasion at the Welcome Reception in beautiful Westin Hotel at Bridgestreet at 6:00 p.m., Friday, July 20, 2012; Saturday, July 20, 2012; fun and activities at Bridgestreet and Banquet/Gala," at 8:00 p.m. Special Guests for the Banquet/Gala will include "The Unique Band," Huntsville, Alabama; Mr. Bobby Hayden, Historian/Storyteller, Huntsville, Alabama, along with many family members showing off their special talents. Family members Mr. Willie Martin and Renee Bolding (Chicago, IL), Tracy Crutcher and Pearl M. Stamper (Huntsville, Alabama) served as Masters and Mistresses of Ceremonies at the Gala. This 2012 Family Reunion will climax with worship services held at 11 o'clock at the St. Rebecca P.B. church, Hazel, Green, Alabama on, Sunday, July 22, 2012, 11:00 a.m., and dinner afterwards at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mack (Ruby) Ford; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Jell Scruggs of New Market, Alabama, shared that the first Hawk, Readus, Russell and Scruggs Reunion was hosted by Mr. Readus Russell and Mr. Langford Scruggs in Chicago, Illinois in the mid-1970s. Ms. Edith E. Karney hosted in Memphis, Tennessee, July 22 - 24, 2005; local family members of the Scruggs, Ford, Martin, Readus, Hawk, and Russell, hosted in Huntsville, Alabama, July 20 - 23, 2006 and July 18 - 19, 2008; Mr. Willie Martin and Belinda Renee Bolding hosted in Chicago, Illinois, July 2010; and,

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Beatrice Readus married Mr. Hermon Scruggs, who are the parents of Mr. Jell Scruggs of New Market, Alabama. Ms. Ellen Scales Readus married Mr. Edgar Scruggs who are the grand parents of Mr. Jell Scruggs. Some of the descendants are Mrs. Delia Scruggs Mack, Mr. Jell Scruggs, Jr., Mr. Jason Scruggs, and Mr. James Scruggs. Mr. Joe Hawk married Mrs. Lucy Scruggs who was the aunt of Mr. Jell Scruggs. Mr. Readus Russell who was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Newman (Milla) Russell married Ms. Tonchee Hawk. Ms. Tina Hawk married Mr. Mack Scruggs who are the parents of Mrs. Texas Pearl Scruggs (Ford) who married Mr. Cleveland Ford. Their descendants are Mr. Mack Ford, New Market, Alabama; Mrs. Mildred Bone, Huntsville, Alabama; Mrs. Emma Pearl Toney, Huntsville, Alabama; Mr. Othal Ford, Fayetteville, Tennessee; Mr. Willie C. Ford, New Market, Alabama, Mrs. Effie Williams, Hyattsville, MD; and a host of nieces, nephews, grandchildren and other relatives; and,

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***Scruggs, Readus, Hawk, Russell and Martin Family Reunion***

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**WHEREAS**, the Hawk, Readus, Russell and Scruggs family tree also includes members of the Martin, Pruitt, Patton and McCrary families. Each year new family ties and bonds are realized (Spraggins' family, Memphis, Tennessee attended in 2008, Huntsville, Alabama) and the family becomes closer connected and stronger by the enduring strengths of the traditional values of the African American family; and,

**WHEREAS**, family members have traveled from Chicago, Illinois (Sandra Hawk; Harvey, Illinois (Marcia Hawk, Margaret Hawk); Cicero, Illinois (Theresa Hawk); Buffalo, NY (Gregory L. Hawk, Gina R. Mayo-Hawk, Grace Hawk Williams); Toledo, Ohio, Detroit, MI (Alberta Hawk Ambrose, Sandra E. Ambrose, Samele A. Ambrose, Anna L. Hawk-Wyatt), Woodbridge, VA (Little Miss Ruby Madison Ford), etc., to participate in a fun-filled weekend of family events. Local family members resides in Huntsville, New Market, Meridianville, Madison, Toney, and other surrounding areas; and,

**WHEREAS**, the 2012 Family Reunion Host Committee consist of the following: Gloria Fletcher, Mary Scruggs, Mildred Bone, Charles Bone, Maggie Toney, Jacqueline Wilson, Dwight Wilson, Emma Toney, Jerry Bone, Tracy Crutcher, Pearlie Stamper, and Mack Ford.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that this governing body extends congratulations and best wishes to the Scruggs, Readus, Hawk, Russell and Martin "Treasuring the Family Legacy of Love," 2012 Family Reunion Celebration and wish them continued success in all future endeavors and safe travels home.

**ADOPTED** this the 12th day of July, 2012

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President of the City Council of  
the City of Huntsville, Alabama

**APPROVED** this the 12th day of July, 2012.

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Mayor of the City of Huntsville,  
Alabama

